

nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2020.

PN1853 ARMY nomination of Christopher V. Emmons, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 11, 2020.

PN1927 ARMY nomination of Nathaniel A. Stone, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2020.

PN1928 ARMY nomination of Margaret C. Brainardbland, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2020.

PN1929 ARMY nomination of Michael B. McGuire, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2020.

PN1930 ARMY nomination of Ralph Pean, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2020.

PN1931 ARMY nomination of Christopher M. Hartley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2020.

PN1951 ARMY nomination of Mauro Quevedo, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 2, 2020.

PN1976 ARMY nomination of Joshua W. Krupa, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 8, 2020.

PN1977 ARMY nomination of Peter C. Renals, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 8, 2020.

IN THE NAVY

PN1964 NAVY nomination of Robert C. Birch, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 2, 2020.

PN1965 NAVY nomination of Tori J. Moffitt, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 2, 2020.

PN1966 NAVY nomination of Mattheau B. Willsey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 2, 2020.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 504, 505, 506, 719, and 720.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Joseph Bruce Hamilton, of Texas, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2022; Jessie Hill Roberson, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2023 (Reappointment); Thomas A. Summers, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2020; Joyce Louise Connery, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2024. (Reappointment); and Thomas A. Summers, of

Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2025. (Reappointment).

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations, en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc, with no intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hamilton, Roberson, Summers, Connery, and Summers nominations?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 754, 755, and 756.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Owen McCurdy Cypher, of Michigan, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Michigan for the term of four years; Thomas L. Foster, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Virginia for the term of four years; and Tyreece L. Miller, of Tennessee, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Cypher, Foster, and Miller nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am grateful to Chairman INHOFE and Rank-

ing Member REED and their staffs for their work to produce the fiscal year 2021 defense authorization bill.

The FY21 NDAA authorizes \$740.5 billion in defense spending, up \$2 billion from last year. The bill provides a 3-percent pay raise for our troops and includes provisions that support spouse employment, childcare, and improved military housing. It ensures that the United States can defend effectively against threats from Russia, China, and North Korea and invests in key and innovative capabilities and technologies. It includes key provisions I requested to boost efforts at Rock Island Arsenal, address military sexual trauma, and protect the health of our military communities from dangerous chemicals.

But this year, we take up the NDAA during a global pandemic, record unemployment, and calls to address racial injustice. The bill touches on some of these issues. It authorizes \$44 million for vaccine and medical research related to COVID-19 and expands benefits for Active Duty and National Guard personnel involved in COVID response.

I am pleased that it includes a provision authored by Senator WARREN to require DOD to remove names, symbols, and other displays honoring the Confederacy. If we want to move toward a more just society, we cannot continue to honor Confederate leaders who committed treasonous atrocities in order to preserve slavery.

I also authored two amendments that were included by consent, the first an amendment supporting strong security assistance for the Baltics that I filed with Senator GRASSLEY. The Baltic States remain key allies and among the few NATO countries that fulfill the target spending of 2 percent of GDP on defense, and this provision encourages support for more robust and enduring security assistance. My other amendment is one I sponsored with Senator PORTMAN, welcoming NATO recognition of Ukraine as an Enhanced Opportunities Partner. EOP status will help only further deepen cooperation with NATO, which is especially critical as 2020 marks the 6th year of ongoing Russian occupation of eastern Ukraine.

But the FY21 NDAA still does not go far enough.

I field two amendments that go to the heart of our duties as Senators, the power to declare war and the power of the purse. Congress must stop abdicating its constitutional responsibilities.

Article I of the Constitution gives Congress the sole authority to declare war. I voted for the war in Afghanistan, but I never imagined that we would still be there nearly two decades later or that the same authorization would be used to justify actions around the world that this body had not contemplated at the time. My amendment would sunset all authorizations for the use of force after 10 years so that Congress can take up the issue and engage in its constitutional duties.